



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

**MINUTES**

**State Fire Safety Board Meeting**

Bureau of Fire Services – Conference Room B  
3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910  
Thursday, September 19, 2019  
1:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Julie Bulson, Representing Hospital Administrators (joined at 1:20 pm)  
Steven Densmore, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula  
Lindsey Haley, Representing Owners of Adult Foster Care Facilities  
Kenneth Herbart, Representing Registered Architects  
Mark Jensen, Representing the Liquefied Petroleum and Flammable Compressed Gas Industry  
Paul Korte, Representing the Nursing Home Industry  
Kenneth Letts, Representing the Flammable Liquids Industry  
Andrew Marceau, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula  
Jeramie Morris, Representing the Chemical Manufacturing Industry  
Kassandra Renneberg, Representing Places of Public Assemblage  
Ron Sabin, Acting Chairperson, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula  
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal/Director, Ex-Officio Member  
Robert Williams, Representing the Building Trades

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Lynn Artman, Representing the Professional Engineers  
Jeffery Green, Representing Fire Departments in the Upper Peninsula  
Tina Kerr, Representing School Board Administrators/Members  
Michael Powers, Representing the Licensed Electrical Contractors

**OTHER BUREAU ATTENDEES:**

Hollie Metts, LARA/BFS, Executive Secretary to the Board  
Laurie Nevin, LARA/BFS, Secretary, Field/Fireworks Program  
Brian Williams, LARA/BFS, Manager, Marijuana Program  
Tom Cochran, LARA/BFS, Manager, Field/Plan Review/Tanks Programs

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Robert Meagher, Certified Fire Protection Specialist

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:**

The State Fire Safety Board Meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. Acting Chairman Ron Sabin asked all in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the Pledge of

Allegiance, Acting Chairman Sabin advised of the emergency exiting procedures and roll call was taken by Hollie Metts, Executive Secretary to the Board. A quorum was determined present. The Acting Chairman welcomed all attendees and asked each of them to introduce themselves.

**II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

**19-09-01**

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Jensen** and seconded by **Board Member Morris** to approve the meeting agenda for September 19, 2019, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**19-09-02**

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Renneberg** and seconded by **Board Member Letts** to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2019 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Robert Meagher, Certified Fire Protection Specialist:** Mr. Meagher addressed the board regarding his ongoing concerns regarding fire protection impairments and requested a change to the December 6, 2018 meeting minutes. Specifically, Mr. Meagher requested that the language "sprinkler impairment" be changed to "fire protection detection/suppression systems." He explained that the issue involves not only sprinkler impairments, but also impairments to water supplies and fire detection systems.

**V. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:**

- a) **Appointments:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier welcomed the new appointees, Kenneth Herbart, Steven Densmore, and Andrew Marceau, to the board. He also thanked Board Member Renneberg for her continued participation until the Governor's Appointments Division finds a replacement and gave a brief overview of the appointments process within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.
- b) **MI Prevention:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier provided the board with an overview of MI Prevention and reported out on its recent activities.
- c) **Fatal Fires:** To date, there have been 65 fatalities in 60 residential fires in 2019. The Fire Marshal also shared that the fatal fire form has been updated. Fire departments may now submit their report electronically. The Fire Marshal advised that Public Act 291 of 1966, the Fire Fighters Training Council Act, now ties firefighter training funds to fire reporting. Currently, 84% of fire departments in the state are reporting in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).
- d) **School Fire and Lockdown Drills:** The Fire Marshal shared his concerns with becoming a "shelter in place" culture as schools are doing lockdown drills in lieu of fire drills. He also discussed approved door hardware and shared his concerns with temporary locking devices.

- e) **Class B AFFF Update:** The Fire Marshal gave an update on the fire department survey. To date, 780 fire departments in Michigan have responded. Of the 780 fire departments that have responded, 337 reported having the foam. The Fire Marshal also shared that the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy awarded a contract to the US Ecology to collect and dispose of the foam.

VI. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

- a) **HB 4792:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier provided an update on this bill regarding unattended tanks. This bill was entered as a tourism bill with the idea that travel will increase if fuel is available unattended 24 hours/7 days per week.
- b) **SB 460:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier provided an update on this bill regarding medical first responder reports. Board Member Julie Bulson shared she thought there is an opportunity to miss out on important data if medical first responders are not required to report.

VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Fire Marshal Sehlmeier introduced the Bureau of Fire Services staff in attendance. Laurie Nevin provided clarification to the board on the fireworks appeal requests.

a. **Fireworks Appeals:**

- i. **Citation 19-00001 – Terp Town Fireworks:** The appeal was called to order at 2:13 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, and the Fire Marshal's decision was upheld. The appeal adjourned at 2:15 p.m.
- ii. **Citation 19-00012 – Ace Pyro, LLC:** The appeal was called to order at 2:16 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, and the Fire Marshal's decision was upheld. The appeal adjourned at 2:17 p.m.
- iii. **Citation 19-00028 – Dollar Village & More, Inc.:** The appeal was called to order at 2:18 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, and the Fire Marshal's decision was upheld. The appeal adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

IX. **STATE FIRE SAFETY BOARD COMMENT:**

**Board Member Haley** asked how to appropriately address Mr. Meagher's concerns about the December 6, 2018 meeting minutes. The board discussed it and requested it be noted in the September 19, 2019 meeting minutes that the board understands the impairment issue as a whole and is not just a sprinkler impairment issue. The board agreed that the

comments reflected in the September 19, 2019 meeting minutes should satisfy Mr. Meagher's concerns.

**X. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:**

**19-09-03**

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Jensen** and seconded by **Board Member Renneberg** to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on October 17, 2019, at the Bureau of Fire Services located at 3101 Technology Blvd., Suite H, Lansing, MI 48910.

**APPROVED:**

  
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State Fire Safety Board Chairman

10/17/19.  
Date:

KENNETH R HERBERT  
Printed Name of the State Fire Safety Board Chairman